



## President's introduction

As this is my first address in the newsletter, let me thank all the members who participated in the elections and voting of the 2007 SAU-Vic Committee. This promotion to President means a lot to me, as I have always been passionate about Skylines and have been around SAU as long as it has existed.

In the coming year, the new committee and I will endeavour to keep the club progressing and grow, as you, the members would all like to see.

I would like to thank James Ward (Jamezilla), Andrew Richmond (Snowman) and Adam Nightingale (Adz) who served on the Executive Committee last year for building a strong base for us to continue developing.

The 2007 SAU-Vic Committee comprises of:

### Executive Committee

#### President:

David Lee (Leewah)

#### Vice President:

Chris Thompson (Scotsman)

#### Treasurer:

Ross Brown (PurpleR32)

#### Secretary:

Caryn Lacey (Kaz180)

### General Committee

#### Events Coordinator:

Matt Phillips (Mavric)

#### Motorsport Director:

Troy Brisby (Roy)

#### Media Manager:

Pete Blythe (Bass Junky)

#### Merchandise:

Bec Pretty (Bec)

#### Corporate Sponsorship Co-Ordinator:

Justine Schuller (MissJuz)

#### Webmaster:

Paul Rivoli (paulr33)

Should you have any questions or suggestions for the club, please feel free to contact any of the committee and we will be more than happy to address your queries.

As the club grows, our events schedule is ever growing to satisfy the needs of our members. As such since taking over the role of President, we have had a number of very successful events such as the annual Great Ocean Road cruise, the 2007 Formula 1 Grand Prix, the member's renewal day and BBQ sponsored by Carsales, held at RE Customs in Springvale, the Driver Dynamics Driver Training Day at Attwood and a Kinglake Cruise and a couple of DECA's.

In the coming months we will be conducting a number of other events and cruises which will be highlighted by the third round of the Carsales DECA Motorkhana Championship in Shepparton which is always a great event to participate in and support. If you've never been to DECA when SAU-Vic has been there, you're missing out!

## Editor's note

Welcome to the 11th issue of the SAUVic newsletter, VIC-Spec. The committee apologises profusely for the enormous delay between edition 10 and edition 11.

Our old mighty king of newsletters, James, has handed the reins to myself (Bass Junky) and the new committee.

So behold, Newsletter number 11 !

Any submissions that you might have for the next edition, please forward them to [newsletter@sauvic.com.au](mailto:newsletter@sauvic.com.au)

Cheers

Bass Junky

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## News

### Sponsorship developments

Again, building on our solid numbers and great events SAUVic has attracted some pretty great sponsors.

Welcome aboard to the following



companies who have been kind enough to support our club.

### Centreline Suspension

Centreline are offering all SAU-Vic members a minimum of 10% off the RRP of all Whiteline, Bilstein, King Springs, Koni, Pedders and TEIN parts with a minimum spend of \$200. They are also offering 10% off all labour (excluding wheel alignments)

Contact: Chris

ph: 03 9469 2914

fax: 03 9460 7215

web: [www.centrelinesuspension.com.au](http://www.centrelinesuspension.com.au)

email: [info@centrelinesuspension.com.au](mailto:info@centrelinesuspension.com.au)

### PDR-Tek

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Contact Details -

Phone: 0419 600 300

E-mail: [john@pdrtek.com.au](mailto:john@pdrtek.com.au)

### JAX Quick Fit Tyres

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Fax: 03 9974 6477

Email: [hopperscrossing@jaxquickfit.com.au](mailto:hopperscrossing@jaxquickfit.com.au)



## Event review

### GOR Cruise:

3rd and 4th March 2007

Once again, good fun was had by all with some very funny and enjoyable moments. Great bunch of people and everyone was well behaved during the days but maybe not so much at night! Lots of new faces this year

What do you need for a track day?

- CAMS L2S or better licence
- Helmet
- Secondary bonnet restraint
- Fire extinguisher
- Metal tyre valve caps
- Full length, cotton clothing
- 4-point racing harness (modified category only)
- Check your fluids, brakes and tyres
- Take it easy, and have fun!

which was fantastic, really good turnout. Always good to meet the new members of the club, welcome aboard and enjoy your stay. every year we make more and more friends throughout the club and thats one the key components of SAU, great people and great cars.

Official attendance was 29 cars for the weekend.

### Sandown 10th of June

Everyone loves Sandown! It's close, the facilities are excellent, the drivers love the speed and technical aspects, and it's very spectator friendly.

The day started with the WRX club putting on a tasty bacon and egg BBQ - note to self, don't go to Maccas on the way to Sandown track days, real bacon and eggs are better.

With CAMS lifting the maximum cars on the track at one time from 12 to 18-20, there was less groups but more cars in each group. It didn't seem to impact much on how the day ran, and in the end probably meant more track time for everyone.

As usual the day was dominated by Nissans up the top end of the results, with 8 out of the top 10 fastest times of the day





going to the mighty GTR and 200SX.

Some stand out lap times for the day was JFK with a crazy fast 1.17.14 - Although not quite getting into the 1.16's like last time he was there. BBGTR with a PB of 1.22.35, Archie with a PB of 1.23.58, and the madman himself, Gareth Evans breaking into a 23 on street tyres with 1.23.92. We really have no idea how Gareth is managing these super quick times on street tyres - I would of never believed you could go that fast on street tyres!

All in all it was a trouble free day, no incidents for the SAU crew and no one seemed to have any trouble with EPA guy and the 75dB limit.

Signing off with a quote from our Motorsport Director.

"Stock or chock full of gear. Any car can be this weekend's race car...just sign up and GO!!!!!"

### Kinglake Cruise

Rexdan and I were in the Evo plus 14 other cars at the peak time. Turbox cruised out to Kinglake with us but then headed back to the city and Kaz met us up there and came the rest of the way.

A quick stop on the side of the road to regroup as 5 had got lost off the back possibly due to a small junction being missed in the directions

A few photos were taken there before carrying onto Kinglake. Parked up in the large gravel carpark before wandering over for some food from the local bakery. We left Kinglake bound for Healesville at about 12pm after spending 45mins ish at Kinglake.

By passed Healesville and headed up Mount Donna Buang which is an awesome



## race brakes

road. We had a relatively clear run which made it more enjoyable and with just 3 cars in the carpark at the top, we all got a park and more pics taken. A few of us climbed to the top of the metal structure which was a bit higher than I envisaged from the bottom! Some more pics taken



from up there which should look ace.

Steady cruise back down the Warburton Hwy and a quick farewell in Lilydale before going our seperate ways. All up from the 10am departure to Lilydale was about 4.5hours and then an extra hour roughly for me to get home.

Was excellent, everyone was well behaved that I saw too. Good result for SAU

Thanks again to attendees

MAV

### MIDNIGHT CRUISE

SAU Vic again held its Midnight Twisty Cruise this winter. On Friday 25 May we hit the mountains on a chilly night and had some fun.

Members met at Mulgrave McDonalds for an 11pm departure and there was a strong showing of 20-25 cars, which was impressive for late on a cold night. It was also fantastic to see a lot of new faces, as well, the many loyal regulars.

Our route took us through Rowville, up Wellington road and started off nice and relaxed with a few gentle curves up to and past Cardinia Reservoir then on towards Emerald.

A noted absence from the cruise this year was the crew from "Team Heated Seats",

in particular James' drunken but constant rambling over the walkie talkies.

We stopped for a quick pit stop at Olinda golf course so members could take a short break, have a cigarette, enjoy a red bull and chat to others.

From there it was full steam ahead. We intercepted Mt. Dandenong Tourist road and followed this down to Montrose.

Apologies for the few wrong turns we made, but Mav's passenger was intoxicated and had no idea where we were heading. A quick reshuffle of passengers/navigators and a little help from old faithful (The Melways) and we got figured it out no problems.

Once back on track, the pack travelled uninterrupted through Mt Evelyn, followed by Silvan, Wandin then on to Lilydale.

For the most part of this section the roads were clear and open and provided some smooth and non-restrictive driving,

### Top 10 Reasons to come along on an SAU cruise...

- 10: See some of Victoria's best roads and fantastic countryside
- 9: Meet some friendly new people with common interests
- 8: A chance to take some terrific photos
- 7: Always some fun stories
- 6: Country town bakeries
- 5: Talk the talk - there's always someone who can help you with a query or problem
- 4: Put faces to forum usernames
- 3: The long line of stove tops
- 2: Buxton Burgers
- 1: The cars!



# NULON



## Australia's Own

although we noticed that Leewah really should invest in some better brakes.

From here it was a short drive along Maroondah Highway to our final destination Lilydale McDonalds.

This cruise looks set to be a regular on the winter calendar as each year we always get a good turnout and the weather gods have been kind so far.

Perhaps we'll also look at running it on a nice warm summers night, which should provide some great driving conditions, and hopefully attract some more members to join us.

Thanks to all who attended and I hope you all had a good time. Special thanks to Leewah, Mav & Scotsman for being my taxis for the night.

Till next time,

Bec

### Transformers, Greatest Movie Ever!

I approached this movie with a lot of trepidation. It was being hyped up (like all movies are) as the movie to go and see of 2007. Usually this means that it's the worst movie of the year, and with the director Michael Bay on board (involved in such blockbusters as Coyote Ugly, Pearl Harbor & The Island) things were looking ominous. Victorian members of SAU, I'm here to lay all your fears to rest. It is without doubt, the greatest movie of all

time! No that is not a misprint, GREATEST MOVIE EVER!

Transformers sets the new standard for CGI in the movie industry. The graphics are mind blowing and unlike anything previously released by Hollywood. The Robots have personality and wit, the movie has a decent storyline and the cast help make the movie believable rather than hinder it. This movie flows very well and even if some of the action scenes are hard to follow, as there is so much going on at once, you are always entertained.

It all starts when high school nerd Sam Witwicky (EBay user LadiesMan217) goes with his father to buy his first car, a beat up canary yellow Camaro (Autobot Bumblebee). With a cameo from Bernie Mac, as the used cars salesman, the movie starts off on the right foot and just gets better with each passing minute. What eventuates throughout the movie is the titanic battle between good (Autobots) and evil (Decepticons) and the struggle for the most powerful energy source in the universe...the Allspark (a Massive 20 Storey Cube, which can fold into a small box). It's up to Optimus Prime and his band of merry Autobots to find the allspark before the Evil Megatron and the Decepticons can get their oily hands on it.

Transformers has everything. Cool Robots (both Villains & Heroes), Guns, Comedy, Action, Hot Cars and Hot Chicks..... what more could a red blooded SAUer want?

If you were old enough to be into the Transformers Cartoons, and Toys of yesteryear, you will not regret seeing this movie.

This movie rates 30psi

out of 30

### Apexi powerfc - keep on truckin

In recent months we have seen some concerns over production of the Apexi PowerFC.

There have been some rumours of end of production of the PowerFC and other various comments.

What we currently know is that the Apexi PowerFC is still in production but some models have been discontinued. The following models are discontinued and are no longer in production build: R34 GTT, R33 GTST, and R32 GTST. This is due to the chip being used on the mainboard that was manufactured by NEC has ceased



production. So Apexi can no longer support the board. I suspect they could redesign the board using the GTR ECU but either won't or don't want to spend the R&D on it. We've seen the RB26 board and cpu run the RB20 and RB25 just fine so it is possible.

The other models are still in production but Apexi has slowed down production times, it takes approx 6-8 weeks for a new PowerFC delivered from Japan from time

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of order. There are still plenty of units in circulation 2nd hand for sale, so it's not like they have all vanished. Units that are discontinued are for sale quiet frequently on EBay and can fetch around the \$1500 mark as they are discontinued.

The unofficial PowerFC FAQ has some notes on this end of production and it even lists some alternative ECU's to achieve similar goals. You can read it here - <http://paulr33.skylinesaustralia.com/docs/powerfc-faq/powerfc-faq.htm#81>

There is also another unofficial hack to make the RB26 PowerFC work on the RB20 or RB25. Using the RB26 works and we have seen it work, but to make it work correctly the user requires Datalogit and a stand alone VCT controller (for RB25).

There are some wiring changes required on the loom itself (or an in-line adapter) but it is fairly straight forward. Most workshops could do the work easily. Is it unknown to us at this stage the future of the PowerFC, some believe a new model is coming out, some believe it will just be scrapped.

Paul

### Diff Shimming at RE Customs

A few weeks ago I had my R33 Skyline Diff Shimmed By Ray at RE Customs.

Prior to this my diff would always single spin, so I was looking for a solution to this.

My original thought was to buy either a 1.5 Kaaz diff or I was also looking into the Nismo 2way.. Both of the mentioned diffs were approx \$1500 - \$2500 installed so some big dollars.

After speaking to Ray about some possible options he suggested that I could add "shims" to my original single wheeling Nissan Diff to tighten it back up and all for a very affordable price. (Under \$400)

The diff can be tightened up using various shims in the diff as per the list below:

- 0.80mm, 0.85mm, 0.90mm, 1.01mm, 1.05mm, 1.10mm, 1.20mm, 1.30mm, 1.40mm, 1.49mm

Based on the selected shim you get a various desired tightness to the diff.

I asked ray to make my diff tight so it was something similar to a 1.5 – 2way Diff.

This was achieved by placing 2 shims additional to the original ones (1 on each side) 1.10mm thick to the diff.

This in turn has come close to locking my diff.

All I can say is its fantastic!!! This is also a very cheap option to fixing a single spinning Diff, and I highly recommend it to those who are sick of a single spinning diff and want a cheap replacement and fix.

I will also add that I am not one for doing things cheap but this does not appear to have anybad affects and is still using the original Nissan gear.

I took the car for a drive on the weekend and through some tight corners

Felt like it was on train tracks. The whole car now feels extremely stable so it has certainly been a viable performance upgrade.

If you're interested in having this done to your car, speak to Ray at Re Customs and he'll be able to give you a price and book

you in if interested.

Re Customs - 9548 3414

## Committee Listing

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